

1400 South 19th Avenue Bozeman, MT 59718

January 4, 2018

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The enclosed Decision Notice has been prepared for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to acquire approximately 1.5 acres of land across the Madison River from the Milwaukee Fishing Access Site (FAS). The acquisition through a no-cost lease from Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is to provide a suitable primitive boat launch site and additional parking along the Madison River.

FWP received one (1) comment regarding the proposed action during the 30-day public comment period; this single comment supported the proposal.

Based on the Environmental Assessment, public comment, and FWP evaluation, it is my decision to proceed with the Preferred Alternative action as described in the Milwaukee Fishing Access Site Lease Acquisition and Improvement Project Draft Environmental Assessment. Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to acquire approximately 1.5 acres of land across the Madison River from the Milwaukee Fishing Access Site (FAS) through a no-cost lease from Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) to provide a suitable boat launch site and additional parking along the Madison River.

Questions regarding this Decision Notice should be directed to:

Ray Heagney Fishing Access Site Manager 1400 S 19th Ave Bozeman, MT 59718

406-994-6987

Or emailed to : rheagney@mt.gov

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Mark Deleray

Region Three Supervisor



1400 South 19th Ave Bozeman, MT 59718

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DECISION NOTICE

MILWAUKEE FISHING ACCESS SITE LEASE ACQUISITION AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Region Three, Bozeman January 4, 2018

Proposed Action

The enclosed Decision Notice has been prepared for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposal to acquire approximately 1.5 acres of land across the Madison River from the Milwaukee Fishing Access Site (FAS). The acquisition through a no-cost lease from Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) is to provide a suitable boat launch site and additional parking along the Madison River.

Montana Environmental Policy Act

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is required by the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) to assess significant potential impacts of a proposed action to the human and physical environment. In compliance with MEPA, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed for the proposed project by FWP and released for public comment on November 6th, 2017.

Public comments on the proposed project were taken from November 6 through December 6, 2017. The EA was mailed to 58 groups and individuals.

Summary of Public Comment

FWP received one (1) comment regarding the proposed action; the single comment supported the proposal.

Comments supporting the proposed project: one (1) total.

Example of Comment Statements Supporting the Proposal

"This looks like a great way to solve the problem at the existing FAS boat ramp and without spending a lot of money."

No Comment opposing the proposed project.

Decision

Based on the Environmental Assessment, public comment, and FWP evaluation, it is my decision to proceed with the Preferred Alternative action as described in the Milwaukee Fishing Access Site Lease Acquisition and Improvement Project

Appeal

This project is subject to appeal, which must be submitted to the FWP Director (Martha Williams, Director, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701) in writing and postmarked within 30 days of the date on this Decision Notice. The appeal must specifically describe the basis for the appeal, explain how the appellant has previously commented to the department or participated in the decision-making process, and lay out how FWP may address the concerns in the appeal. If you have questions regarding this Decision Notice, please contact Ray Heagney, Fishing Access Site Manager at 406-994-6987.

Mark Deleray

Region Three Supervisor